



## December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

**Pastor:** Fr. Henry Smolenaars  
**Fr. Henry Email:** frhenrys@gmail.com  
**Hospital Chaplain:** Fr. Wieslaw Papuga  
**Priest on Call:** 902-746-8233 (Emergencies and Sacrament of the sick)  
**Office hours:** Monday to Friday from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm  
**Church email :** stambrosemail@gmail.com  
**Bulletin email:** stambrosebulletin1@gmail.com  
**Tabitha Centre:** 902-742-8960  
**Confession/Adoration** Wednesday 7:00-8:00

### MASS INTENTIONS – December 14<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024

#### St. Ambrose Co-Cathedral (Yarmouth):

Sat. 4 pm Parishioners  
 Sun. 9am Delby & Louise Saulnier  
 Sun. 11:15 am Marilyn, Earl and Stephen Goudey  
 Tues. 6:30 pm Anniv. Georgina Blanchard  
 Wed. 6:30 pm Father Joe Hattie  
 Thurs: 9 am Special Intentions  
 Fri. 9 am Mary Cameron  
 Sat. 4 pm Trooper Corey Joseph Hayes  
 Sun. 9am Parishioners  
 Sun. 11:15 am Anniv. Gerard MacKinnon

#### Our Lady of Lourdes (Melbourne):

Sat. 6 pm Dec. 14 Claudette Taylor  
 Sun. 10 am Dec. 22 Narcisse & Freda Surette

### QUOTES OF THE WEEK: -Let us therefore give



ourselves to God with a great desire to begin to live thus, and beg him to destroy in us the life of the world of sin, and to establish his life within us. -St. John Eudes

-Belief and faith are provoked by works, not by simply saying that one believes, but by real actions, which are kept up, and by a heart burning with love. -St. John Chrysotom

**REFLECTION: Turn From Sin** The crowds asked John the Baptist, "What should we do?" Among those within the crowds who were asking Saint John the Baptist this question were tax collectors, soldiers and ordinary people. John gave an answer to them all, first telling them to turn away from the sins that they struggled with the most. Sin takes on many forms and often is closely associated with our daily duties in life. Some sins are sins of commission, meaning sins we commit by an intentional act. Some sins are those of omission, meaning a lack of certain virtues or a failure to do what we ought to do. After addressing the particular sins that those in the crowds were struggling with, John then turns their attention to Christ. He states to them that "one mightier than I is coming" and that "He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." In other words, John was giving the people a twofold command. First, work to overcome sin. And second, turn your eyes to Him Who is coming to you. Repenting from sin is not enough. Once we repent, we must then fill the void within our souls with the presence of Christ. Advent, just like Lent, is an important time within our liturgical year to heed these messages. Though it's true that we must work to overcome sin and turn to Christ every day of the year, God knows we need a special time each year when we give concerted effort to these spiritual endeavors. So, before Advent passes you by, heed the words of the Baptist and take some time to examine your conscience thoroughly. Perhaps use a detailed list of the Ten Commandments or the Seven Capital Sins. Once you do that, seek out an opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Doing so is essential to a fruitful Advent season. Once you thoroughly repent of the sins you struggle with the most right now, turn to the Savior of the World with special attentiveness to the miracle of the Incarnation this Advent. Spend time adoring the God Who came to us in the form of a little child. Meditate on this Gift. Gaze at a nativity scene prayerfully. Read the Scripture passages about the birth of Christ. Close your eyes and imagine yourself there at His birth. Reflect, today, upon this twofold exhortation from John and apply it to your Advent preparations. Cleanse your soul in a special way from all sin this Advent. Then prayerfully ponder and meditate upon the reality

we are preparing to celebrate. As John says, allow the Christ Child to truly "baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire" through your deepening devotion and prayer this Advent. -My Catholic Life

### **KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS NEWS: Monthly 4<sup>th</sup> Degree**



meeting will be on December 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm with healing Rosary starting at 6:30pm for all our sick Brother Knights.

### **CHRISTMAS FLOWERS:**



Anyone wishing to donate towards Christmas flowers for **Our Lady of Lourdes** in memory of a loved one may do so at the office or you can put your donation in an envelope with your name and envelope number on it along with "in memory of \_\_\_\_\_" written on it and place it in the collection basket.

### **COFFEE SOCIALS:**



The coffee socials will be held after all the masses this weekend December 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. Come join us in the Jubilee Room for a cup.

### **CHRISTMAS SEASON OFFICE HOURS:**



The office will be closed Tuesday December 24<sup>th</sup> to Thursday December 26<sup>th</sup> and will be open for Friday December 27<sup>th</sup> 9:30am to 1:00. The office will also be closed on December 31<sup>st</sup> and January 1<sup>st</sup> and reopening for January 2<sup>nd</sup> 2025 for regular hours of operation.

### **MATTHEW 18 RENEWAL MEETINGS:**

We take our name from the scripture Matthew 18:20 which states: "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." We meet every Monday night at 7pm in the Jubilee room, unless it is a holiday or storm, " If the schools are closed, due to storm, there is no meeting." **Who are we?** We part of the Catholic Renewal, approved by the last several Pope's, and have representatives in Rome who report to the Pope. **What to expect?** We open the meeting with an opening prayer, then we sing songs of praise and worship, inspired scripture readings or inspired word from God. There's a time for sharing how God is working in our lives, or maybe how a reading or song struck a core in us. We finish the evening with prayers of petitions and 3 structured prayers. All

are welcome to join us at any time. Maybe we are the spiritual nourishment you are needing in your life at this time. If you have any questions about our group, you can contact one of the Core members: Lorraine Manser at 902-749-1903, or Cheryl Harding at 902-740-3816.

### **CHURCH DOORS:**

Please note that on Monday and Tuesday December 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> the main entrance will be closed. The carpet in the entrance only, will be replaced as it is deteriorating from salt and water. Please use the **Jubilee doors** to enter the church until 4:00pm on the Tuesday. Thank you for your cooperation.

### **KEEP YOU CAR DOORS LOCKED:**

Recently we had a theft occur in our parking lot. Just a reminder to not leave valuables in your vehicle in plain sight when you come to church. Also remember to keep your vehicle locked. Fr. Henry

### **ST. AMBROSE CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE**

#### **December 24 Tuesday (Christmas Eve)**

6:00 pm Children's Mass

8:00 pm

10:00 pm Please join us for carols prior to mass.

#### **December 25 Wednesday (Christmas Day)**

10:00 am

#### **December 31 Tuesday (New Year's Eve)**

6:30 pm

#### **January 1 Wednesday (New Year's Day)**

10:00 am

Please note there is no masses before 6:00 pm as directed by the diocese.

### **OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE:**

#### **Tuesday December 24<sup>th</sup> (Christmas eve)**

8:00 pm

#### **Wednesday December 25<sup>th</sup> (Christmas Day)**

10:00 am

### **CHRISTMAS MUSIC CONCERT:**

Saint Ambrose is having their annual *Night of Joy Christmas concert* Sunday, December 15 at 7:00 p.m. Proceeds to Tabitha Centre.

